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HEADQUARTERS  
U.S. STRATEGIC BOMBING SURVEY  
(PACIFIC)  
APO #234  
C/O POSTMASTER, SAN FRANCISCO

INTERROGATION NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
(Obtain from G-2)

PLACE Yokohama, Japan  
DATE 23 Nov 45

Division of Origin Medical Division

Subject: Garbage and Refuse Disposal

Personnel interrogated and background of each: Mr KUNITOMI and Mr  
WATANABE, Water Purification Section, City of Yokohama

Where interviewed Water Purification Section office, Yokohama

Interrogator Capt Paul J Houser, SnC

Interpreter Unknown

Allied Officers Present None

Summary: Before bombing, garbage and refuse was collected by the city in trucks and carts and burned in an incinerator located south of the main part of town. After bombing, collections by the city were discontinued and disposition is made by each householder in pits or by burning. However, there is very little garbage at the present time.

No unsanitary conditions appear to exist because of inadequate garbage disposal, nor has an increase been noticed in the number of insects or rodents.

Kunitomi promised to secure figures on the number of men, trucks and carts employed for collection and disposal prior to air attacks.



MEMO OF INTERVIEW WITH M. KUNISAKI, VICE PRESIDENT, NIPPON  
SEKITAN KAISHA, (JAPAN COAL COMPANY)

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owned half by the government and half by the big coal interests. Included in the monopoly was to be all coal produced in Japan and all imported. Importations were bought by the Company on arrival at the Japan ports. During the period 1939 to 1943, the Coal Company was chiefly on instrument for absorbing the difference between rising production costs and fixed sales price, and most sales were only paper transactions with the coal turned back to the big mining and importing interests.

Beginning in 1943 the power and operation of the Company were greatly expanded by regulations devised by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (later Munitions). As supplies became more critical, allocations gained in importance, and the Company became the active instrument in executing the allocations policy. Coke sales came under the Company for the first time in 1943. Only the production of a few mines directly owned and operated by the Army, Navy or Government, estimated for 1944 at 700,000 tons, was outside its scope. Records of this production may be available at the Fuel Bureau. Japan's few captive mines of steel and other industries were nominally under the Company, but the coal was invariably resold directly to the owner.

Eight local subsidiary corporations (Chiho Sekitan Kaishas), 40% owned by the Japan Coal Company, handled local distribution to consumers of less than 20,000 tons of coal or 500 tons of coke per month. Large consumers purchased directly from the Company.

The Company rented its handling facilities until 1943, at which time it began to buy out other handling concerns. No transportation facilities were owned, though occasionally the Company would charter colliers and barges.

Operations costs of the Company were to be covered by a commission of 55 Sen per ton handled; no other guarantee of profit or interest on indebtedness existed. The Company generally covered fixed charges until 1944, as did the local subsidiaries. The Company would occasionally extend loans to producers but did not invest in their securities.

PRICES:

Prices to consumers were frozen as of the 1 April 1942 level. Production costs rose steeply; the difference between prices paid to producers and received from consumers at the present time amounts to 35 Yen per ton.

ALLOCATIONS AND PRIORITIES:

Allocations and priorities were decided by the Planning Board and the General Mobilization Bureau. Consumers would make



MEMO OF INTERVIEW WITH M. KUNISAKI, VICE PRESIDENT, NIPPON SEKITAN  
KAISHA, (JAPAN COAL COMPANY), CONTINUED).

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request for allocation direct to the Fuel Bureau, usually through the particular industry's Control Association which screened requests. Requests were based on estimated requirements for semi-annual periods until October 1943, and quarterly thereafter and submitted for each producer by the Control Association after consultation with various bureaus, et c., regarding available labor, materials, etc. The Control Association would then issue periodic quotas for production.

In filling allocations, the Army and Navy always received 100% regardless of supply, as did the railways and electric power plants.

Allocations plans were supposedly on a quarterly basis, but during the past 18 months were actually subject to almost daily changes resulting from special orders given to the Planning Board and the Fuel Bureau by the Army and Navy.

High priority was given to improve handling facilities in Western Japan after submarines practically closed Tokyo Bay in late 1943, but little was done.

The Fuel Bureau was recommended as source of figures on coal lost by shipping casualties on handling tie-ups in alternate ports.